

ALABAMA BOARD OF EXAMINERS IN MARRIAGE AND FAMILY THERAPY



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MEMORANDUM

TO: Licensed Interns, Associates and Marriage & Family Therapists
FROM: Keith E. Warren, *Executive Director*
DATE: March 16, 2020
RE: COVID 19 Office/Daily Operations

Good Afternoon,

As directed by Governor Ivey regarding COVID 19, www.governor.alabama.gov, the Board office will be closed to the public until Monday, April 6, 2020. The staff will be answering phone calls (when available) and emails so please feel free to communicate by these methods. If you need to apply for a new license, please visit the form's section of the Board's website. You may print an application to submit via mail to the Board's office located at 2777 Zelda Road, Montgomery, AL 36106.

Please be aware that the Board **will not** be suspending the teletherapy supervision training requirements based on the Board's statute because it does not have a provision to do so. We do encourage each of you to base your therapy sessions on ethical standards and following HIPPA Guidelines. Exchange of e-mail with clients is usually not confidential and HIPPA compliant, and that needs to be explained to clients. If they choose to communicate with provider that way, they are consenting to taking those risks. Providers are encouraged to only use unsecured electronic messaging of any type for scheduling purposes only, if that.

If you have questions or additional concerns, please follow the guidelines set forth by the following entities: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>, Alabama Department of Public Health <http://www.alabamapublichealth.gov/index.html> or your County Health department <http://www.alabamapublichealth.gov/about/health-departments.html>.

Thank you for your cooperation. Please stay safe and healthy as we deal with COVID 19.